



Starter Guide

for your eMachines computer

Look inside for helpful hints on:

- Using Windows
- Using multimedia
- Protecting your computer
- Restoring your computer

Thank you!

Thank you for your purchase! We want to make your experience a satisfying one, so we've put together tips to help you get started with your eMachines computer.



Contents

Getting started with Windows	4
Windows Welcome Center	7
Getting help	8
Internet	10
E-mail	11
Using CDs and DVDs	12
Safety and security.....	14
Improving performance	19
Restoring your system	20

we do Windows

After you start your computer and complete the Windows® setup, the first thing you'll see on your screen is the Windows desktop. The desktop includes a taskbar, *Start* button (Ⓜ), and *Recycle Bin* icon. Other icons may be added depending on your computer's configuration.

Drag items to
the **Recycle
Bin** to delete
them

Add icons of
your own

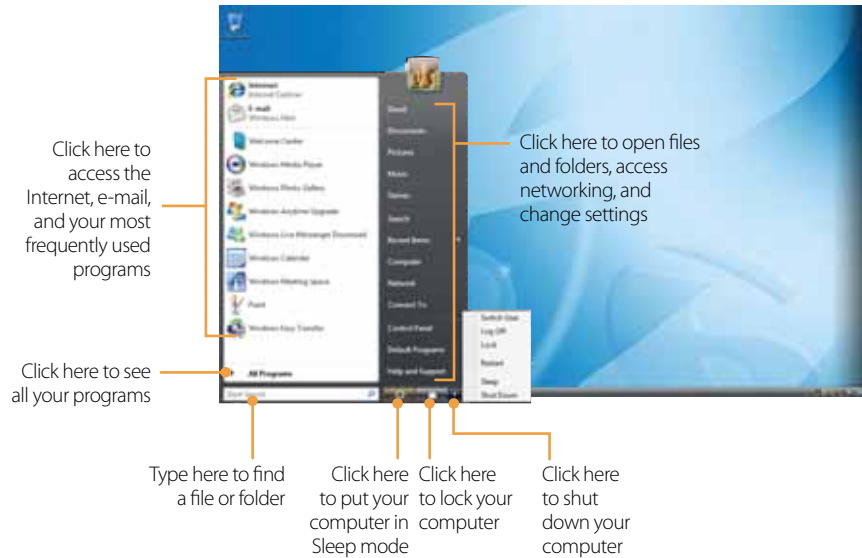


This is the
**Windows
desktop**

Click Ⓜ (**Start**) to access programs
and to turn off your computer

getting things started

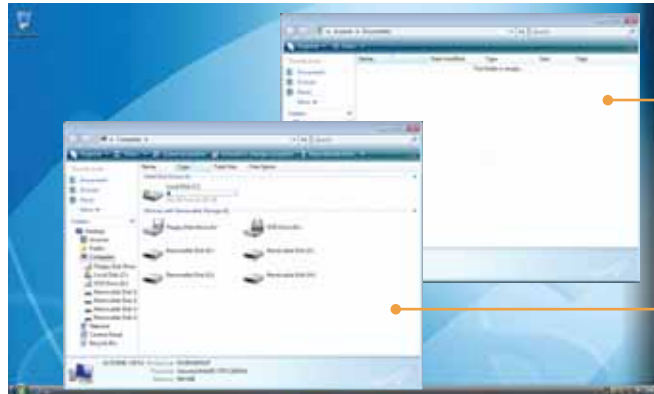
The Start menu is the *command center* of your computer. Whether you want to start a program, find a file, change settings, or even shut down your system, the Start menu is where it all begins.



For more information about Windows, see "Windows Basics" under Help and Support.

maintaining order

Managing files and folders starts with the **Computer** folder. From there, you can see everything on your computer. To get there, click **® (Start)**, then click **Computer**. To save something right away, use the **Documents** folder that has already been set up for you. To access that folder, click **® (Start)**, then click **Documents**.



Documents

Already created for you, this folder is ready for immediate use

Computer

Look here to see what's on your computer

welcome to the Welcome Center!

The Welcome Center offers a wealth of options for getting more information about your computer, as well as links to special deals from eMachines partners! To access the Welcome Center, click **Ⓜ (Start)**, **Control Panel**, then click **System and Maintenance**. Click **Welcome Center** and select an option.



need additional help?

If you need a little extra help with something on your computer, eMachines offers several options designed to meet your needs:

- **eMachines Web support**—Available 24/7, eMachines' online support provides current drivers, product specifications, tutorials, and personalized information about your computer. Visit it at www.emachines.com/support.
- **Help and Support**—This collection of Windows help and troubleshooting information, along with automated support, is easily accessible. Just click **® (Start)**, then click **Help and Support**. Click a link, do a search, or simply browse to find what you're looking for.



eMachines' Web support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



Help and Support is a quick and easy way to get information

help, continued...

- **User guide**—For detailed information on using your eMachines computer, see the provided *Reference Guide* or online *User Guide*. To access the online guide, click **@ (Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **eMachines Documentation**.
- **Tech support**—For help and advice you can trust, talk to people who know computers. You can find the number on the setup poster that came with your computer.
- **BigFix***—Pre-installed for you on your eMachines computer, BigFix checks your computer for problems and conflicts and lets you know if it finds something. To start BigFix, click **@ (Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **BigFix**. Click **Help**, then click **Tutorial** to learn more about it.



Check your online user guide for easy-to-understand information on a variety of topics

*May not be available in all regions

surfing the 'net

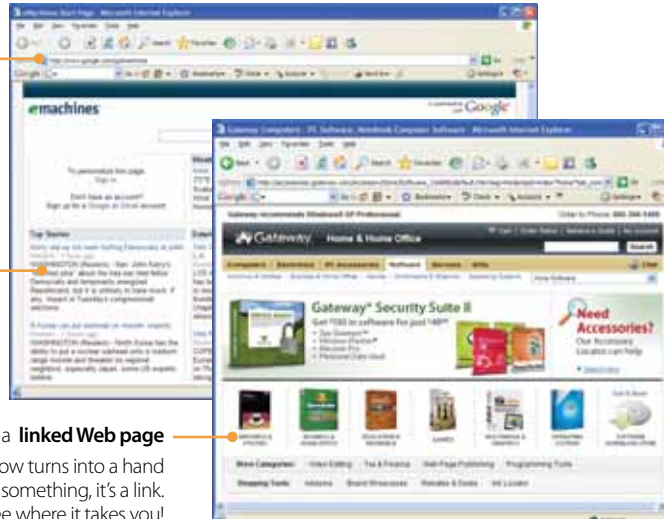
Explore the World Wide Web with an Internet connection. Just connect your computer to a telephone line, Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), or cable TV line and sign up with an Internet Service Provider (ISP).

To get to the Internet, click  (**Start**), then click **Internet** or the ISP you've connected with. Type in an Internet address, such as www.emachines.com, click **Go**, and you're on your way.

The **address bar** is where you type in the Internet address or URL (Universal Resource Locator)

This is a **Web page**

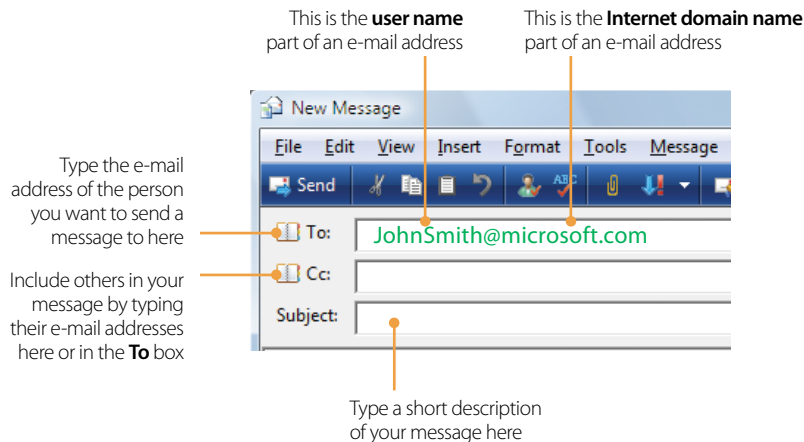
This is a **linked Web page**
If your pointer arrow turns into a hand when you move over something, it's a link. Click on it and see where it takes you!



welcome to e-mail!


Staying in touch with family and friends is easy with e-mail and is usually free with your Internet account.

To send e-mail, connect to your ISP, click **@ (Start)**, then click **E-mail**. When your default e-mail program opens, complete any setup required, then click **Create Mail** and type the e-mail address of the person that you want to send a message to in the **To** box. Add a description in the **Subject** box, type the e-mail message, then click **Send**. Your message will arrive at most e-mail addresses in seconds.



for your listening and viewing pleasure...

Enjoy listening to favorite music CDs or watching DVDs with software already installed on your new eMachines computer.

To listen to a music CD or watch a movie on DVD, click  (**Start**), **All Programs**, then click **Windows Media Player**. Put the disc into the CD or DVD drive on your computer, then click the **Play** button (▶). You can control how the music CD or video DVD plays from Windows Media Player.

Note: You must have a DVD drive to play a DVD



Songs or scene selections from the CD or DVD you are playing are listed here

Click these buttons to play, pause, or stop disc playback. You can also control the volume here.

rip, burn, play

Create a custom music CD with MP3s you *rip* yourself, or create a video DVD of home movies or special videos. If your computer came with a DVD burner, you can do it all with easy-to-use software already installed on your eMachines computer.

Create an MP3 music file

To create an MP3, click **Ⓜ (Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **Windows Media Player**. Put a music CD in the disc drive on your computer, then click **Rip**. Make sure that the songs you want to create MP3s of are checked, then click **Start Rip**. Windows Media Player will create MP3s and save them to the Music folder.

Create a DVD

To save content such as data or movies to DVD, open Windows Media Player and put a blank, writable DVD into the DVD burner on your computer. Click **Burn**, then select the items you want to save by right-clicking on the item and selecting **Add to Burn List**. When your selections are complete, click **Start Burn**.



Note: you must have a DVD burner to create a DVD

keeping your computer safe

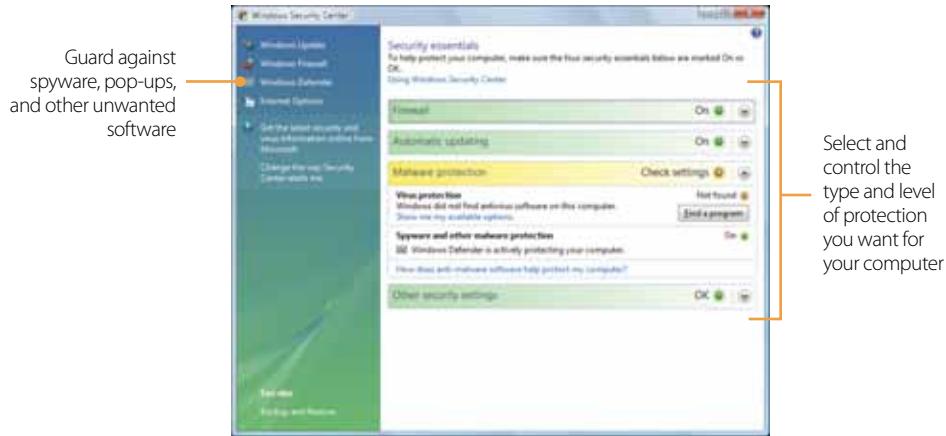
Your eMachines computer comes with hardware and software features that can help you keep your computer secure and up-to-date. Use these tools regularly to improve the security of personal information stored on your computer:

- **Windows Security**—Provides access to security features such as Windows Security Center, Windows Firewall, Windows Update, and Windows Defender—all built into Windows Vista
- **Norton 360**—Reduces the chances of a virus affecting your computer
- **BigFix**—Monitors your computer for problems, and alerts you if something is detected



securing the perimeter

Windows Vista provides built-in security features designed to protect you, your family, and your computers. To view or change Windows Vista security settings, click **® (Start)**, **Control Panel**, **Security**, then click **Security Center**.



Windows Update

If a hacker finds a way to bypass the security features built into Windows Vista, Microsoft creates a high-priority Windows update to fix the problem. You should update Windows regularly to keep your computer secure.

To run Windows Update, click **® (Start)**, **All Programs**, then click **Windows Update** and download high-priority updates.

You can
schedule
automatic
updates with
Windows
Update



virus-free with Norton 360

Norton 360

Norton 360 helps protect your computer from viruses, hackers, and privacy threats. To run Norton 360, click  (Start), **All Programs, Norton 360**, then click **Norton 360**.

Your computer came with virus, spyware, firewall, and phishing protection turned on. Keep virus definitions current to ensure up-to-date protection.

You need to extend your subscription to update Norton 360 after the complimentary trial period ends.



BigFix

Your computer may include BigFix. BigFix monitors your computer for problems and conflicts. It automatically gathers information about the latest bugs, security alerts, and updates from BigFix sites on the Internet. Whenever BigFix detects a problem, it alerts you by flashing the blue taskbar icon (■). To fix the problem, click that icon and BigFix will open.



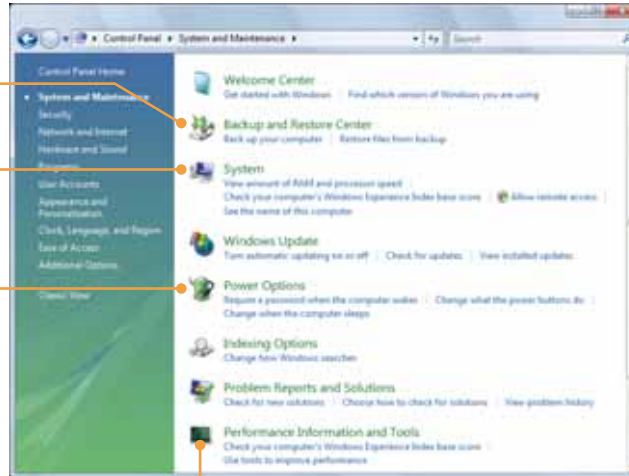
improving performance

Keep your computer in top running condition with regular maintenance. Click **⌘ (Start)**, **Control Panel**, **System and Maintenance**, then click **Performance Information and Tools**. Select a task and follow the instructions. Do this regularly and you'll have a smoother running system.

Click here to return your computer to a previous state when it was working better

Click here to see details about the components of your system

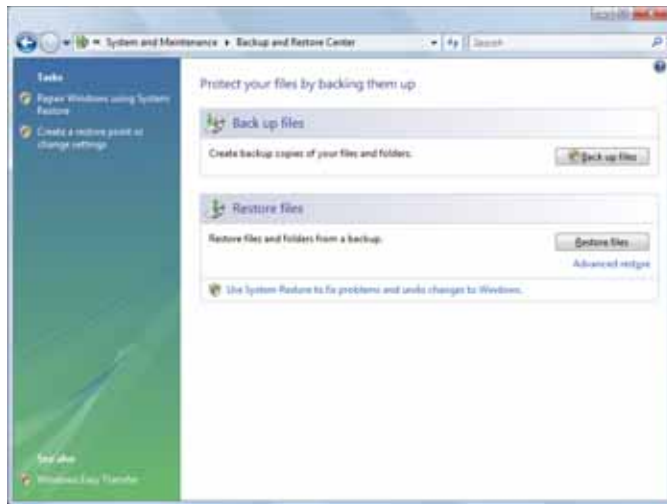
Click here to adjust how quickly your computer goes into power-saving modes



Click here to do maintenance, such as Disk Cleanup, or to defragment your hard drive (click **Advanced Tools**, then click **Open Disk Defragmenter**)

backing up a bit - restoring your computer

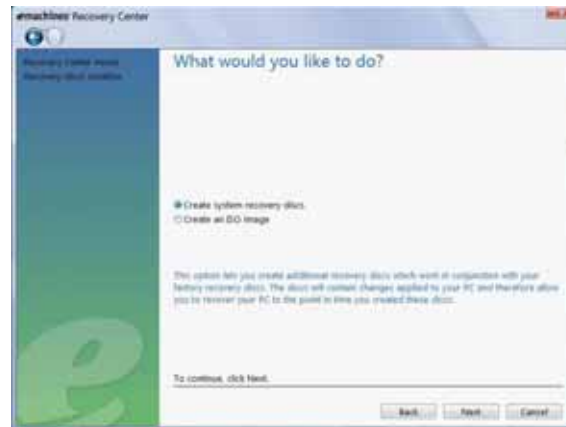
In the unlikely event that you experience software problems, the Windows Vista Backup and Restore Center let you roll back your computer to a previous state when everything worked right. Windows Vista takes regular snapshots of your system, called *Restore Points*. You can return to one of these Restore Points to get your computer running again. To take advantage of the restore features in Windows, click **(Start), Control Panel, System and Maintenance**, then click **Backup and Restore Center**.



prepare to recover

When you first get your computer, it is a good idea to make a backup of the software that came with your system. Before you create these “recovery discs,” make sure that your computer has a recordable drive and that you have blank discs ready. Depending on the type of recordable drive you use, you’ll need either several CD-R discs or one DVD-R or DVD+R disc. CD-RW, DVD-RW, and DVD+RW discs will not work.

To create the disc, click **Ⓜ (Start), All Programs, eMachines Recovery Center**, click **eMachines Recovery Center**, then click **Application and Drivers External Media** and follow the on-screen instructions. When prompted, choose either **Create Application and Driver Recovery Disc** (makes a backup of applications and drivers) or **Create an ISO image** (creates complete system backup). Make your selection, then continue with the on-screen instructions.



reinstalling the operating system

A backup copy of your hard drive's original factory-installed contents is saved on a hidden area of your hard drive. This lets you restore your computer to its original factory settings.

- 1 Turn on or restart your computer, then press the **F8** key on your keyboard repeatedly while your computer is starting. When the *Advanced Boot Options* screen appears, click **Repair Your Computer**, then click **Next**.
- 2 Pick your country and keyboard layout, then click **Next**.
- 3 Log on, then click **Next**.
- 4 On the *System Recovery Options* screen, click **Recovery Manager** (last option). The System Recovery wizard opens.
- 5 Follow the on-screen instructions.
- 6 Click one of the following system recovery options when prompted:
 - **Recovery with automatic data backup** (recommended)— This moves the contents of the hard drive to the C:\My Backup folder and installs a new copy of Windows. This option saves your existing data files, but all programs must be re-installed and the program settings reconfigured. You need at least 4 GB of hard drive space to use this restore option
 - **Full factory recovery**—Reformats and restores the system software as it was when you purchased your computer. This process deletes your data files, so they must be saved on an external disc prior to reformatting.

-
- 7 Click **Next**, then click **Yes**. Recovery starts.
 - 8 When recovery is complete, click **Finish**. Your computer will restart and Windows will finish its setup and installation.

IMPORTANT

- If your hard drive has failed and you can't restore the software from the hard drive, contact eMachines Customer Care for help.
- After you restore your computer, it will appear with the same files and programs it had when it shipped from the factory. You still need to download Windows updates and antivirus updates to bring your computer's software up to date.



MAN EM DT/PTB STARTER GDEV R3 4/08

